



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/500,508	06/29/2004	Ulrich Boke	DE 020006	4383
24737	7590	08/05/2005	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			VY, HUNG T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2821	

DATE MAILED: 08/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/500,508	Applicant(s) ULRICH BOKE	
	Examiner Hung T. Vy	Art Unit 2821	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on the preliminary amendment 6/29/2005.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/24/05 & 6/29/04</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Acknowledges

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the following items from the Applicant.
Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on 01/24/2005 and 06/29/2004. The references cited on the PTOL 1449 form have been considered.

Specification

2. The specification has been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of possible minor errors. However, the applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 7 are rejected under 35 U. S. C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Paul et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,677,602.

Claims 1 and 7, Paul et al. disclose a circuit arrangement for operating one or more low-pressure gas discharge lamp 16, comprising a current converter 105 and a driving device 300 for the current converter, characterized in that a second current

Art Unit: 2821

converter generates a voltage phase shifted by 180° (see fig. 1, fig. 3d column 11, line 49-51 and column 8, line 48-64).

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Paul et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,677,602 in view of Ulrich Roll et al, DE patent No. DE 4436463.

Claims 2 and 4, Paul et al. disclose circuit arrangement for converting DC 103 current into AC current 109 and for feeding one or more low pressure gas discharge lamps 116 which utilizes a full-bridge switching circuit (See 3d) with power switches 106,108,140,142 as current converter 105, 150 and two resonant circuits per lamp 116 (See fig. 3 (d), 3 (f)), each of the resonant circuits having a series-connected coil 110,114, one series-connected capacitor 112, but Paul et al. do not disclose one parallel-connected capacitor. However, Ulrich Roll et al. disclose one parallel-connected capacitor c12 (See fig. 1). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify Paul et al. to have on parallel-connected capacitor as taught by Ulrich Roll et al. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide the one parallel-connected capacitor in order to have advantageously formed at least partly by parasitic capacitance.

Claims 3, and 5, Paul et al. disclose circuit arrangement for converting DC 103 current into AC current 109 and for feeding one or more low pressure gas discharge lamps 116 which utilizes a full-bridge switching circuit (See 3d) with power switches 106,108,140,142 as current converter 105, 150 and two resonant circuits per lamp 116 (See fig. 3 (d), 3 (f)), each of the resonant circuits having a series-connected coil 110,114, one series-connected capacitor 112, but Paul et al., in fig. 3 (e), (f) do not disclose one parallel-connected capacitor. However, Paul et al, in fig. 4 disclose two series connected capacitors 112, 118 and Ulrich Roll et al. disclose one parallel-connected capacitor c12 (See fig. 1). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify Paul et al. to have two series connected capacitor and one parallel-connected capacitor as taught by Paul et al, in fig. 4 and Ulrich Roll et al. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide two series connected capacitor in order to have maximum frequency of resonant circuit and the one parallel-connected capacitor in order to have advantageously formed at least partly by parasitic capacitance.

Claim 6, with the same structures as the parallel-connected capacitor so the resonant circuit (see fig. 3 (e), (f)) will provide the same function as formed at least partly by a parasitic capacitance between the lamp 116 and a metallic part.

Conclusion

5. When responding to the office action, Applicants are advised to provide the examiner with the line numbers and page numbers in the application and/or references cited to assist the examiner to locate the appropriate paragraphs.

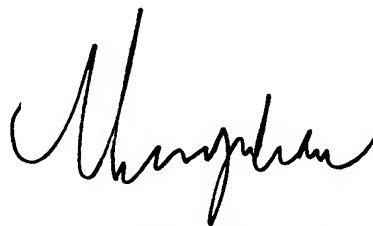
Art Unit: 2821

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung Vy whose telephone number is (571) 272-1954. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 5:30pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published application may be obtained from either private Pair or Public Pair. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private Pair only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have question on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hung T. Vy
Art Unit 2821.

July 31, 2005.



THUY V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER